

IS ROMANISM IN THE BIBLE ?

\$1,000.00 offer

(See Inside)

One Hundred Questions WHICH ROMAN CATHOLICS CANNOT ANSWER

By REV. STEPHEN L. TESTA



"And God said, Let there be light: and there was light" (Genesis 1:3).

"And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (Jesus in John 8:32).

33rd English Edition

Revised

IS ROMANISM IN THE BIBLE ?

A challenge to Roman Catholics to
find their religion in the Bible.

ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS
(\$1,000.00) IN PRIZES

The above amount will be given to the first
Roman Catholic priest or layman who
will prove that the following one
hundred Roman Catholic doc-
trines and practices are
taught in the Bible.

(This was offered by the original author, not the current publishers)

AN APPEAL TO PROTESTANTS, CATHOLICS AND WHOSOEVER

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The publishers may or may not agree with all of the
statements made by the Rev. Testa, but do believe
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ROMAN CATHOLIC DOCTRINES PUT TO THE TEST

I.

By Rev. Stephen L. Testa

The Rev. Lorenzo Palmieri, a converted Catholic priest of the Province of Avellino, Italy, in his desire to bring his fellow countrymen to the knowledge of the truth, published some years ago a challenge to the priests of Rome to prove that the distinctively Roman Catholic doctrines and practices can be found in the Bible.

Rev. Palmieri selected a list of about 100 questions concerning these doctrines, and to any Roman Catholic, priest or layman, who could answer these questions with pertinent verses from the Scriptures he promised, first, a prize for each answer, the aggregate total amounting to 25,000 Italian lire for the 100 questions; and, secondly, that if he were shown by Holy Scriptures to be wrong in his Biblical faith he would return with all his converts to the Roman Catholic Church.

Though this offer was sent to every parish priest in Italy, and the booklet ran into three editions, not one Roman Catholic priest or layman has as yet come to Rev. Palmieri to claim any of the prizes, or to demand that he return to Romanism. What is the reason? Because the Roman Catholic doctrines and practices cannot be found in the Bible, but are rather severely condemned by the Word of God.

The Bible, being the Word of God and the depository of truth concerning the Christian faith, the conclusion is inevitable that any church not founded upon the Bible is **not**

the true Church of Christ, no matter how powerful, wealthy or numerous it may be. Let this serve as an eye-opener to sincere Roman Catholics who will depend upon those doctrines and practices for their soul's eternal salvation.

TRUTH
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I earnestly believe that this challenge and offer should be made to Roman Catholics in America and that the same opportunity be extended to them to prove their religion. Their salvation may be at stake. It does not pay to be uncertain about the truth. I have translated and re-written the questions in English and have undertaken to present Rev. Palmieri in America. I make hereby in his name the same two promises Rev. Palmieri made in Italy, that is: First--One Thousand Dollars for the one hundred questions answered, or Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for each question answered, with a pertinent verse from the Bible (even the Catholic Douay version) which clearly teaches or inculcates that particular Roman Catholic doctrine or practice to Christians. The prizes will be given in cash to the first Roman Catholic who brings those proofs, or the money will be paid to any charitable institution designated by him.

Secondly, if any Roman Catholic priest or layman convinces me, by the Bible, that I am wrong in my Protestant faith, shows me that Jesus Christ founded the Roman Catholic Church, and that the Virgin Mary, the Apostles and primitive Saints and Martyrs were Roman Catholics, I promise to return to the Roman Catholic Church. This is a fair proposition, and is made in good faith. I leave it to his sense of justice and fair play that he should do the same, i.e., he should be converted to the Biblical Faith when it is clearly shown to him that the truth is on our side, that ours is the Church which was founded by Christ, and that the Roman Church is a later innovation.

II.

THE ONE HUNDRED QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE CHURCH

Whoever Proves by the Bible

1. That Jesus Christ founded the Roman Catholic Church, instead of His church. (Read Matthew 16:18.)
2. That the teachings and practices of the Roman Catholic Church of today are the same as those of the primitive Apostolic church which was the Biblical Christian church.
3. That the Church of Rome is the Church Jesus Christ founded, that is, (a) the ONE identical with the true Biblical church; (b) HOLY, i.e., made up of saints set apart from the world and working for the spiritual redemption of humanity; (c) APOSTOLIC, i.e., in having been faithful to the faith, preaching and practice of the Apostles; (d) CATHOLIC, in that her present dogmas were at all times universally held by all Christians; (e) BIBLICAL, in that she has adhered strictly to the teachings of the New Testament.
4. That unrepentant sinners, such as thieves, assassins, adulterers, backbiters, deceivers, blasphemers, idolaters, etc., can also belong to the Church of God. (Read Ephesians 5:5; Apoc. (Rev.) 22:15; Romans 1:29-32)
5. That there is no salvation outside of the church of Rome. (Read Acts 4:12 John 14:6.)

Will receive \$10.00 for each one proved right.

NOTE ON THE CHURCH: The Lord Jesus Christ founded His Church (Matthew 16:18). He was to be the **Head, the Holy Spirit, the Guide, and the Bible** its only rule of faith and practice. It was made up of His followers who were born again and pledged to continue His work of redemption in the world. It was **CATHOLIC** in that it was designed for all the people of the earth. The Church remained pure and faithful to the Gospel for about 300 years, which was the golden age of martyrs and saints, who were persecuted by pagan Rome. After the so-called conversion of Emperor Constantine (310 A.D.) when Christianity was declared the state religion, multitudes of pagans were admitted to the Church by baptism (sprinkling) alone, without conversion. They brought with them their pagan rites, ceremonies and practices which they gradually introduced into the Church with Christian names, all of which corrupted the primitive faith and the Church became Romanized and paganized. What makes a Church truly Catholic is its adherence to the Gospel of Christ and the Apostles' Creed. The Roman Church has added Popery and so many other pagan doctrines and practices that many people think it is no longer either Christian or Catholic. The Reformers saw that the Church had become the Biblical "Babylon" or the "Apostate Church" clearly foretold in the Bible and ultimately to be punished and destroyed (II Thessalonians 2:3-12, I Timothy 4:1-3, Revelation 17 and 18), and from which God calls His people to come out, saying, *"Come out of her, My people and be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."* (Revelation 18:4). The Reformation of the 16th century was a protest against those pagan doctrines, a wholesale withdrawal from the official Church and a return to the primitive Catholic Christianity of the New Testament. The Roman Church today can become again a truly Catholic Church by renouncing Popery and those dogmas and practices which are contrary to the Word of God and holding fast to the primitive foundation, on which basis the reunion of all Christian Churches could be realized. The name Catholic, when applied

to the Roman Church exclusively, is a misnomer, for it befits those Protestant Churches which hold fast to the Bible and the Apostles' Creed without any addition whatsoever. (Revelation 22:18-19)

The true Church is invisible, made up of truly converted people who are to be found in all the visible churches and whose names are written in heaven, and the visible churches exist to train saints for the kingdom of Christ. (Luke 10:20; Apoc. (Rev.) 21:27)

ABOUT ST. PETER

Whoever Proves by the Bible

6. **That St. Peter was a Pope.**
7. That he exercised the office of pope in Rome for 25 years as they claim.
8. That he was the visible head of the Christian church. (Read Matthew 20:26-28, and I Peter 5:1)
9. That he received from the Lord the primacy of jurisdiction over the entire Christian church.
10. That these prerogatives were then transmitted by Peter to the Bishops of Rome as his successors down to the present day.

11. That St. Peter ever asked or accepted gifts of money "to gather unto himself a treasury of silver and gold" to be called "The Treasure of St. Peter," or "Peter's Pence." (Read Acts 3:6; 8:20)
12. That St. Peter ever accepted worldly honors, such as to be borne about on the shoulders of men on the "scdia gestatoria," the kissing of his feet and many other honors used by pagans. (Read Acts 10:25-26.)

Will receive \$10.00 for a Scriptural answer to each of the above Catholic teachings.

NOTE ON ST. PETER: St. Peter was a never Pope; nor a priest, not even a Roman Catholic. He was a Jewish fisherman in Palestine and a married man. His brother Andrew brought him to Christ the first time and he became a convert, a disciple, and later was made an apostle. He made the first confession that "Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the Living God" and Jesus made this declaration the foundation of His church. He was a very impulsive but sincere man. He made many mistakes and once he was called "Satan" by Jesus. Later he denied Jesus thrice, but he repented confessing his sin to Jesus directly (Matthew 4:18-20; 16:18-23; 26:69-75). By his preaching at Pentecost 3,000 Jews were saved, and after that he continued to be a plain open air preacher and an elder. He protested against the Jewish priests who wanted to forbid him to preach the Gospel in Jerusalem. By this protest, he was the first Protestant of Christianity (Acts 4:17-20; 5:27-30). He preached mostly to the Jews. The Bible does not mention his ever having been at Rome. He preached the Gospel of Christ fearlessly, saying that Jesus Christ alone is the head of the Church and the only Name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved. He also urged and recommended the reading of the Scriptures (Acts 4:12; 1 Peter 1:23, 2:2 and 5:1.)

ABOUT THE POPE

Whoever Proves by the Bible

13. That the word "Pope" is in the Bible, except its synonym as the anti-Christ. (Read II Thessalonians 2:3-12; Revelation 17:1-10.)
14. That the Pope of Rome is the successor of St. Peter.
15. That the Pope is the Vice-gerent of God upon earth and the Vicar of Jesus Christ. (Read II Thessalonians 2:3-12.)
16. That the Pope is infallible. (Romans 3:9, 10, 23)
17. That the Pope ought to be called "Holy Father." (Read Matthew 23:9 and John 17:11.)
18. That the Pope can canonize saints, i.e., make saints out of persons long since dead, some of whom were criminals. (Read II Corinthians 1:1; Philipians 1:1; and Colossians 1:2.)
19. That the Pope ought to have temporal power, with soldiers and armed guards, and have political sway over all the nations of the earth. (Read John 18:36.)
20. That the Pope can excommunicate churches and individuals, release entire peoples from being subject to kings and republics, and place whole nations under ban.

21. That the Pope can oppose the unity, liberty and independence of nations, as he did in Italy, with his pretensions on Rome, the capital of United Italy.
22. That the Pope can grant or sell indulgences, plenary or partial, for good works done. (Read Mark 2:5-10.)
23. That the Pope can proclaim a Holy Year every twenty-five years with the promise of special indulgences and remission of sins to those who go to Rome to visit certain churches there. (Isaiah 1:12-17)

Will receive \$10.00 for each one proved right.

NOTE ON THE POPE: The word "pope" is not found in the New Testament. This title of Pope was refused by many holy bishops in the early centuries of the church who thought it was the sign of the anti-Christ, and was first given to the Bishop of Rome in 610 by the wicked emperor Phocas. All the pretensions of the Pope are blasphemous according to the spirit and letter of the New Testament. St. Paul and St. John wrote of anti-Christ who was to appear in the world. The Pope fits that description in many ways, though he is only a forerunner of the future anti Christ. (Read II Thessalonians 2:3-12; Revelation 13:1-18. See notes on Apocalypse Chapter 17. The woman on the scarlet beast. [The New American Catholic Bible, 1952])

ABOUT PRIESTS

Whoever Proves by the New Testament

24. That Jesus instituted a hierarchy of priests for His Church as a special class, separate from the people, except Apostles who were to preach the Gospel. (Read Matthew 10:18; 23:5-12.)

25. That God instituted and ordained any other than: Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors (Bishops, Elders), teachers, and Deacons. (Ephesians 4:11-12; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; 5:1; Titus 1)
26. That bishops, deacons and priests cannot marry. (Read 1 Timothy 3:2, 4, 11; 4:3), and that a priest though unmarried, should be called "Father." (Read Matthew 23:9.)
27. That the priest is a very powerful person; "more powerful than the angels, more than the saints, more than the Virgin Mary; even more than Jesus Christ himself, for He has to obey the priest's bidding; and is second only to Almighty God." (Read II Thessalonians 2:4; Romans 1:22.)
28. That bishops and presbyters ought to say Mass and hear the confessions of the people, and that the people would go to the priests to confess their sins at least once a year. (Read Psalm 51:1; 32:5; John 14:6.)
29. That Jesus ever instituted cardinals or any order of monks, nuns, monsignors, abbots, etc.
30. Where does Jesus (or His Apostles) recommend that people separate themselves from society to do penance and become monks, or that women be cloistered in convents and be forbidden to speak with or even to see their own parents? (Read Luke 10:1-12; Matthew 5:13-16.)

Will receive \$10.00 for each one proved right.

NOTE ON PRIESTS: **Priests, as Bishops, Pastors and Elders,** are allowed in the New Testament, but not as "sacerdotes" or sacrificers at the altar. Christ is the only High Priest who lives forever and whose priesthood is not passed to another, nor can His sacrifice be repeated (Hebrews 7:21-28; 10:23). They are simply preachers and servants of the people, and not their masters. According to St. Paul, they should be married men and have children, otherwise they could not rule the Church of God. Let it not be forgotten that priests were the ones who condemned Christ to death. Let the Roman Catholic priests be real ministers of God, to preach the Gospel and educate the people, and they will receive the praise of God and men. (Read I Timothy 3:1-3; Acts 20:17-36.)

NOTE ON CONFESSION. Confession of sins is recommended all through the Bible, but always to God and never to man. Judas Iscariot is the only example in the Bible who confessed his sins to the priests and then hanged himself (Matthew 27: 1-5). All good Christians confess their sins to God as soon as committed, and never let a day pass without confession of sins at the evening prayer. Public confession was practiced in the early Church and it is still practiced in testimony meetings in Protestant Churches and Missions. Secret or auricular confession is also practiced, but to obtain comfort and direction; never for the purpose of obtaining forgiveness from man, for only God forgives sins. (Psalm 51; Mark 2:5-11; Matthew 11:28; I John 1: 8-9)

ABOUT THE MASS

Whoever proves by the Bible

31. That the Mass was instituted by Christ.

32. That Jesus or the Apostles said Mass.
33. That Mass is a sacrifice and a daily repetition of the sacrifice of Christ upon the cross. (Read Hebrews 10:10-18.)
34. That the Mass is identical with the Holy Communion or the Lord's Supper. (Read I Corinthians 11:23-27.)
35. That it is a mortal sin not to go to Mass on Sunday and other feast days.
36. That the Mass and other church services should be recited in Latin or any language which the people do not understand. (Read I Corinthians 14:9-19.)
37. That the Mass can be said for money at various stipulated prices. (Read Matthew 10:8.)
38. That the Mass can be said for the benefit of the living who pay for having it said, in order that they may receive divine favors, have their sins forgiven and an easier access into heaven when they die.
39. That the Mass gives repose to the souls of dead people who are supposed to be burning in Purgatory. (Read Luke 23:43.)

Will receive \$10.00 for each one proved right.

NOTE ON THE MASS. There is no valid objection to the words and prayers used in the Mass, but there is great objection to the doctrine of the Mass as the Council of Constance (1414) and the Council of Trent (1545) teach. This service in the primitive church consisted in prayer, singing of hymns, the reading of the Bible, preaching of the gospel and celebration of the Holy Communion. Claims for the "Mass" that it is a repetition of the sacrifice of Calvary, wherein Christ is daily called down from heaven into the host, crucified anew and then eaten up alive by the Priest is repugnant to reason, against the Bible and the only mystery is that there are still many intelligent people who believe it. I wonder if this is not "the mystery of iniquity" St. Paul foretold in II Thessalonians 2:7.

ABOUT THE HOST

Who Can Find in the New Testament

40. That the wafer, and not bread and wine, was used by Jesus when He instituted the Lord's Supper. (Read Matthew 26:26-28.)
41. That the wafer in the hands of the priest is changed into the real body, soul and divinity of our Lord. (Read I Corinthians 11:26.)
42. That the living Christ said to be in the host can be eaten, locked up in the tabernacle or carried about by the priest anywhere he pleases.

43. That the consecrated host or wafer, even if broken up into a thousand pieces, each such particle contains the entire body of Jesus Christ alive.
44. That in the Holy Communion the wafer alone should be used, and not both elements, bread and wine, as they were used by Christ and His Apostles. (Read I Corinthians 11:23-28.)
45. That the priest alone is to partake of the consecrated wine at the communion, but the same is to be denied to the people who receive only the wafer. (Read Matthew 26:27.) [The Roman Catholic church has since changed this position and now permit its people to partake.]
46. That the Mass should be said and the Holy Communion be given only in the forenoon and that this should be preceded by a fast. (Read Matthew 26:26-28; I Corinthians 11:34.) [In modern times this has been changed.]

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NOTE ON THE HOST: The institution of the Lord's Supper is very clear and plain (I Corinthians 11:23-29). Jesus used bread and wine to represent His body and blood. Every communicant was to receive communion in both elements. The institution was a memorial of His death and in remembrance of Him. For centuries the communion was given in both species—even in the Roman Catholic Church. It is still so given in the Greek Orthodox and Protestant Evangelical Churches to this day.

ABOUT THE VIRGIN MARY

Whoever Proves by the Bible

47. That the **Virgin Mary** was conceived without sin. (Read Romans 3:10-23; Luke 1:46-47.)
48. That the name of her mother was Anna, and that "St. Anne" is the protectoress of women at childbirth.
49. That Mary is to be called the **Mother of God**.
50. That Mary is the door of heaven, the dispenser of divine grace, the morning star, the co-redeemer with our Lord, etc. (Read John 10:9; 14:6; Isaiah 43:11.)
51. That Mary in her lifetime ever claimed or accepted such divine titles for herself, except "blessed" and "handmaid of the Lord." (Read Luke 1:38, 48.)
52. That Mary ever promised people to pray for them or to be protectoress of any individual or nation.
53. That Mary ever asked and obtained from God any favor for any one of her devotees.
54. That Mary ever asked anyone to be her devotee, to pray to her, to worship her, and build shrines and churches in her honor. (Read John 2:5.)

55. That Mary did not instead, say to the attendants, "Do whatsoever Jesus says unto you," (John 2:5), the same as Protestants say today.
56. That Mary was ever a Roman Catholic herself.
57. That Mary was not a convert from the religion in which she was born and raised. (Read Luke 1:38, 11:27-28.)
58. That Mary was taken up into heaven body and soul. (Read John 3:13.)
59. That from heaven Mary can hear the prayers of those who invoke her upon earth.
60. That "hyper-dulia" worship should be given to Mary. (Read Matthew 4:10.)
61. That Mary is to be called by so many different names and titles--at least 57 different titles in Southern Italy alone, so that the common people think there are as many different madonnas competing with each other.
62. That statues and pictures should be made of Mary, and shrines and churches should be dedicated to her. (Read Exodus 20:4; Leviticus 26:1; Deuteronomy 27:15.)
63. That it is permitted to carry Mary's supposed images and statues publicly in the streets to be worshiped by the people who burn candles to her and pin dollar bills to her dress at such processions.

Will receive \$10.00 for each one proved right.

NOTE ON THE VIRGIN MARY: The Virgin Mary is one of the most holy woman found in the Bible. She is duly respected and truly honored by all Evangelical Christians. Her example and experience ought to be followed by all Roman Catholics. This is how she was saved: She was familiar with the Bible. She believed the Word of God and accepted the message from God through the angel Gabriel at the annunciation. She was a convert to the new religion and left the religion in which she was born and reared. She decided upon this change for herself without consulting the Jewish priests or her relatives or friends. She traveled miles and miles to visit Elizabeth who had the same religious experiences as herself. She gave her grateful testimony to God in the beautiful hymn, the Magnificat. She advised the servants to do whatsoever Jesus said unto them. She took part in prayer meetings with the disciples, received the Holy Ghost with them on Pentecost and took part in the open-air meeting that day when 3,000 persons were converted and baptized. She lived and died a model Christian. In her lifetime, the Virgin Mary never once acted like a Roman Catholic would, but always spoke and acted like a Protestant Christian of our time. (Read Luke 1:26-56; John 2:5; Acts 1:14.) Praying to her and celebrating pagan festivals in her honor, under many names and titles, is an insult to her and she would be the first to protest against such practices.

ABOUT SAINTS

Whoever proves by the New Testament

64. That saints are only those in heaven who have been canonized by the popes, and that all true believers in Christ upon earth are not yet saints till years after death. (Read II Corinthians 1:1; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:2.)
65. That saints in heaven can hear the voice of those who pray to them upon earth.
66. The saints in heaven are advocates and mediators between God and man. (Read I John 2:1; I Timothy 2:5.)
67. That "dulia" worship should be paid to saints and feast days be celebrated in their honor. (Read Revelation 19:10.)
68. That it is allowed to make statues of the Madonna and of saints to remind us of them. (Read Isaiah 44:15-19; Leviticus 16:22.)
69. That it is lawful to carry these images in public streets, to have people bow down to them, light candles and shoot bombs and fireworks in their honor. (Read Exodus 20:4; Isaiah 44:15-19.)
70. That such DULIA and HYPER-DULIA worship of the saints and Mary is not idolatry which is expressly forbidden in the Bible. (Read Matthew 4:10; Leviticus 26:1; Exodus 20:4-5.)

71. Where do you find in the Bible that dead bones and other relics of supposed saints are invested with miraculous powers and should be carried around, be prayed to, kissed and worshiped by the people. That is fetishism, not Christianity.
72. Did any true saint while on earth ever request or recommend that he or she be prayed to, worshiped and thus honored? Did they ever do this to other saints?
73. Did not St. Peter and St. Paul expressly refuse such idolatrous honors and forbid them? (Read Acts 10:25-26; 14:8-18.)
74. Were any of the true saints, such as the apostles, evangelists and the early Christian martyrs Roman Catholics?
75. Were not nearly all the saints converts from the religion in which they were born, and were they not Protestants in the real sense of the term? (Read Matthew 4:17-22; Acts 4:18-19, 9:1-20.)

Will receive \$10.00 for each one proved right.

NOTE ON THE SAINTS: In the New Testament all believers in Christ on earth are called saints, though not necessarily perfect. They become saints by their conversion to Christ and their obedience to Him. God makes them saints. Their names are written in heaven and they need not be canonized by the Pope. None of these

saints ever attracted people to themselves, but always directed them to Jesus, the Saviour of the world. They would be the first to reject the idolatrous worship which Roman Catholics pay to them, thinking to honor them. There are many more saints in heaven than the Pope recognizes, and many of those which the Pope has canonized are not saints at all. If anyone can prove the contrary, he is welcome to the prizes offered.

ABOUT PURGATORY

Whoever Proves by the New Testament

76. That there is such a place as purgatory of fire. (Read Matthew 25:46.)
77. That the fire of purgatory is equal in temperature to the fire of hell, as priests say.
78. That even very good Roman Catholics cannot expect to go straight to heaven after death, but must burn in those flames of purgatory for an indefinite time in order to be purified from their sins. (Read I John 1:7; Luke 23:43; John 14:3.)
79. That the souls in purgatory can be refreshed and their term of suffering shortened by prayers said for them, memorial services, Miseries, De Profundis, litanies, alms-giving, indulgences, and especially by Masses said for money paid to the priests. (Psalm 49:6-8)
80. That Christians can work out their liberation from purgatory by doing certain works during their lifetime, and

that if these works are not sufficient, then their friends and relatives can do such works for them or have Masses said for the repose of their souls.

81. That those souls, while burning in atrocious torment in purgatory, can hear and answer the prayers of their friends upon earth who invoke them, and help them.
82. That the souls in purgatory can pray to God and obtain favors for others, but not for themselves.
83. That those souls are visited every Sunday by the Virgin Mary. (Luke 16:26)

Will receive \$10.00 for each one proved right.

NOTE ON PURGATORY: Purgatory is an invention of the Roman hierarchy, pure and simple. Not one iota of it is found in the New Testament. Such doctrine would be a contradiction of the words of Christ, who says that His believers go straight to heaven when they die (Luke 23:43; John 14:3). It's a libel on the efficacy of the blood of Christ which "cleanseth us from all sin." It would make God unjust to allow only those souls to get out of purgatory more quickly who can afford to pay for Masses said for them, either by leaving the money for that purpose before they die or by having their relatives and friends furnish the money when they are dead. Because of this doctrine, the poor Catholic has no comfort or consolation at death, because he sees nothing but flames and suffering before him. So different from the

Protestant view; the Christian dies happy for he expects to be with Jesus in heaven (Acts 7:55-60; II Corinthians 5:8).

ABOUT GOOD WORKS

Whoever Proves by The Bible

84. That salvation can be earned by meritorious works or works of supererogation; or secured by means of the priests, the sacraments, or the intercession of the Virgin Mary and the saints. (Read Galatians 2:16; Ephesians 2:8-10.)
85. That such meritorious works are those prescribed by the church, such as having Masses said, attending Mass, reciting certain prayers, such as the rosary, litanies and novenas, fasting, abstaining from eating meats other than fish on Fridays and other prescribed days, making pilgrimages to shrines and wiping the floor of such places with the tongue, etc. (Read Isaiah 1:12-18.)
86. That a person can perform works of supererogation (which are merits over and above those needed by such a person for salvation).
87. That such extra merits or works of supererogation are bequeathed to the treasury of merits of the Roman Catholic church to be dispensed by the Pope in the form of indulgences to those who need more merits than they have earned by such works.

88. That one must abstain from eating meat on Friday or other prescribed days under pain of eternal damnation. (Read I Corinthians 10:25; I Timothy 4:15; Matthew 15:11. (Eliminated in modern times))
89. That, by paying money to a priest for a dispensation, you are free to eat meat any day, and that by paying money for a dispensation, marriage can be performed even among relatives. (Read Acts 8:20.)
90. That making a sign of the cross is a means of grace and drives away the devil. (Read Matthew 4:10-11.)
91. That by wearing scapulars and medals on the body the wearer is protected from drowning and other bodily injuries.

Will received \$10.00 for each one proved right.

NOTE ON GOOD WORKS: It is only by the grace of God, through faith in Christ, and not one's good works ("lest any man boast") that salvation comes. Good works are the result of saving faith and the necessary evidence of faith, but they are never meritorious nor are there any works of supererogation. The only merits God recognizes are the infinite merits of the perfect work of Christ who suffered and died for us and "by whose stripes we are healed." Our good works cannot merit salvation, for they are as "filthy rags" before God. Those who try to be saved by their good works have fallen from the grace of God and have no part in the salvation wrought by Christ. (Read Galatians 2:16; 5:4.)

ABOUT PRAYER

Whoever Proves by the Bible

92. That prayers may be offered to others besides the Triune God. (Read Matthew 6:6; John 16:23-24.)
93. That prayers can be repeated mechanically, and that the same prayer should be repeated many times, such as the rosary. (Read Matthew 6:7; Isaiah 1:15.)
94. That the Lord's prayer, which is addressed to God the Father, may also be addressed to the Virgin Mary and to the saints. (Read Matthew 6:6-13.)
95. That prayers in a prescribed number can be recited for penance or expiation for sins committed.

Will receive \$10.00 for each one proved right.

ABOUT BAPTISM

Whoever Proves by the Bible

96. That baptism by mere sprinkling of water on the head of a babe or adult person makes him a Christian, washes away original sin and saves the soul. (Read Mark 10:13-16.)
97. That children should be baptized soon after birth, for if they die without baptism their souls go to "Limbo".

98. That in baptism, besides the water, the priest has to use consecrated oil, salt and his own saliva to anoint the child.

Will receive \$10.00 for each one proved right.

ABOUT THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

Whoever Proves by the Bible

99. That it is not lawful for laymen to read the Bible without the permission of his parish priest. (Read John 5:39; Matthew 23:13.)
100. That tradition has the same authority as the Holy Scriptures. (Read Mark 7:7-13; Colossians 3:8; Revelation 22:18 and Matthew 15:9.)

Will receive \$10.00 for each one proved right.

BIRTH CERTIFICATE

of some Roman Catholic Inventions and Heresies

NOTE - These dates are in many cases approximate. Many of these heresies had been current in the Church years before, but only when they were officially adopted by a Church Council and proclaimed by the Pope as dogma of faith did they become binding on Catholics.

At the Reformation in the 16th Century these heresies were repudiated as having no part in Christianity as taught in the New Testament.

Prayers for the dead	in the year, A.D.	300
Making the sign of the cross		300
Worship in Latin language		600
Worship of Mary and saints		788
Worship of the cross, images and relics		788
Baptism of Bells		965
Fasting on Fridays and in Lent		998
Fabrication of holy water		1000
Marriage of priest forbidden		1079
Rosary beads invented		1090
Sacrifice of the Mass	Eleventh Century	
Sale of Indulgences		1190
Transubstantiation of wafer		1215
Adoration of the wafer		1220
Auricular Confession of sins to the priest		1215
Cup forbidden to people at Communion		1414
Purgatory proclaimed		1438
Apocryphal books added to the Bible		1546
Immaculate conception of Mary		1864
Infallibility of the Pope		1870
Assumption of the Virgin Mary		1950
Elimination of abstaining from meat on Fridays		1980s

**What next? Still the Roman Church claims
never to have changed!**

III.

CONCLUSION

1. AN APPEAL TO PROTESTANTS

Brethren: Do not think that the Roman Catholic Church is all wrong. It has much truth in it. It teaches somewhat about the fundamental doctrines of the Bible, such as belief in the Triune God, the universality of sin, the incarnation, death, resurrection and ascension of our Lord; that Christ died for sinners, and that the Bible is the inspired Word of God, the Virgin birth of Christ, the

death of Christ is an atonement for sin; the return of Christ; and future judgment. In fact, it teaches belief in all the articles of the Apostles Creed. These fundamental doctrines of the Christian religion are common to all churches and are truly CATHOLIC in the sense that they are held by the Roman Catholic, the Greek Orthodox and the Protestant Evangelical Churches.

However, the Roman Catholic Church has added many false doctrines and practices in the course of the centuries which completely hide those fundamental saving truths. The Reformation in the sixteenth century was primarily a protest made by sincere Catholics against these false doctrines, innovations and practices, authority for which they could not find in the Bible. Thus they withdrew from the Romanized church, to return to the primitive Apostolic Evangelical church of Christ. It is as reasonable to expect that a Catholic should become a Protestant, as it is reasonable and normal for an elementary school graduate to enter high school; but it is as inconceivable for a Protestant to become a Roman Catholic as for a high school graduate to wish to return to the kindergarten class.

But, please do not hate Roman Catholics. They do not read the Holy Bible as Protestants are encouraged to do, and so cannot distinguish truth from error. I plead for tolerance and brotherly love. Sympathize with them. Remember that Christ died for them as well as for you. They are "the other sheep" which our Lord Jesus is yearning to bring into His fold (John 10:16). Give them the Gospel and a copy of this booklet which will open their eyes. You will find that many sincere souls, priests as well as laymen, will turn to Jesus Christ alone for their salvation, and get out of the wicked religious system of Catholicism.

2. AN APPEAL TO ROMAN CATHOLICS

Dear Friend: I know just what you believe and how you feel in these matters, for I was formerly a Roman Catholic myself. I can sympathize with you. I wanted to be saved from my sins and was seeking the truth. If I had to have a religion, I wanted the religion which Christ and His Apostles preached, and which the Virgin Mary and the early saints believed and practiced. God and my conscience told me that the true religion is to be found in the Holy Bible, for that is the only book that tells of the religion which Jesus and his Apostles preached. Upon reading the Bible, especially the New Testament, I did not find the distinctively Roman Catholic doctrines and practices therein, but to my utter amazement, I found that such doctrines and practices were severely condemned. (See Baruch from the apocryphal book.) I found it clearly stated that the Lord Jesus Christ is the only Saviour for sinners and that He is ever willing and able to save me and others, independently of priests or popes or dead saints. The Holy Spirit led me to pray to Jesus in the words of St. Peter, "Lord save me" (Matthew 14:30), and in the words of the publican, "Lord, be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13 & Romans 10:9-10). The blessed Lord Jesus saved me, forgave me all my sins and gave peace to my soul. Do you blame me that now I love the Lord Jesus more than I love any other being upon earth or in heaven? Now I can exclaim with the Virgin Mary--"My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit rejoiceth in God my Saviour" (Luke 1:46-47).

After my conversion, I had occasion to visit a Paulist priest who was conducting a "mission" to non-Catholics in Brooklyn and asked him a few questions. I told him if he proved to me from the Bible (even the Catholic Bible) that the apostles Peter and Paul, the Virgin Mary and the early martyrs and saints were Roman Catholics as he was, or that the Roman Catholic Church was the same as the early Christian Church, I would return to the Roman

Catholic Church then and there. He told me to read a book by a certain French author which would prove that the Roman Catholic Church of today is substantially the same as that of the early centuries. I answered that I wanted proof from the Word of God. He could not prove it from the Bible (nobody can), but I showed him with the Bible that my beliefs were the same as that of the Virgin Mary and the early saints and martyrs, for I believe as they did.

My friend, let me tell you there is no use trying to find verses in the Bible to answer the 100 questions in this booklet, for they are not there. The Roman Catholic Church may have been Christian and Apostolic in the early centuries. Had she remained faithful to the fundamental saving truths of the Word of God, she would be truly Christian and Catholic today and there would have been no need of the Protestant Reformation. But she altered so many things and added so many pagan doctrines and practices, culminating in the Creed of the Council of Trent (1545) and in the Syllabus of Pope Pius IX (1864), which even condemns civil and religious liberty, and as late as 1870 with her doctrine of papal infallibility, that a lot of people deny to her even the right to be called a Christian church at all. This is why so many Roman Catholics become Protestants and the Protestant Evangelical Church claims to be older than the Roman Catholic Church, just as the Bible and the Apostles' Creed are older than the Vatican Council of 1870 A.D..

What you desire most of all, aside from all controversies, is the salvation of your soul. I assure you that the Lord Jesus Christ wants to save you now just as you are, for He says: "Come unto Me, all you that labour, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28) Pray to Him with all you heart, even with the three short words that St. Peter used and millions of others have used ("Lord save me," Matthew 14:30), and you will hear His sweet voice in your heart, "Son, be of good cheer, thy sins are forgiven thee."

(Matthew 9:2) Then your life will be really happy, and you will thank the Lord for your salvation just as the Virgin Mary did when she exclaimed in the Magnificat: "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit rejoiceth in God my Saviour." (Luke 1:46-47)

As regarding controversial doctrines, do not bother about them or burden yourself with them. Let theologians discuss them. You hold to the fundamental doctrines of the Christian religion. As they were sufficient for the Apostles and early Christians, they are sufficient for us. Read the Bible (A.V. 1611 edition) every day, pray and obey its divine precepts to the best of your ability with the help of God.

You should attend church regularly. As to which church to attend, remember that it is not the Protestant Church or the Roman Catholic Church that saves, but the Lord Jesus Christ. Accept salvation from Him, and then you need to find a good church that: (1) Preaches and teaches from the Holy Bible, that is, the 1611 King James Version. See II Timothy 4:2; (2) One in which believers are Scripturally baptized in water (all the way under, not sprinkled) See Acts 8:25-40. (3) One that is interested in seeing the lost come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, that is, one that passes out gospel tracts and goes out door-to-door soul-winning on a regular basis. See Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 1:8 and Acts 2:40-47; (4) One that follows the Bible in all things in separation from the world and worldly things. See II Corinthians 6:11-18, Romans 12:1-2. I John 2:15-16; (5) Please be advised that in this evil day most Protestant denominations are very liberal and do not believe in the Bible as we are instructed by God. So then, there are very few Bible believing churches to choose from. Our suggestion would be to choose an independent fundamental unregistered Baptist church. Most of these kinds of churches are true Bible believing churches where Jesus, God and the Holy Spirit dwell.

If God leads you to join such a church, do not hesitate to obey, for it would be a promotion for you. Millions of others have done it before you. Please remember: it is not a virtue to remain in the religion in which you were born. It is instead a duty to embrace Christianity as God shows you. Jesus demands conversion (new birth) for every one. (Isaiah 55:6-7; Mark 1:15; John 3:3) It does not matter whether one is born the first time a Catholic or Protestant, a Jew or Mohammedan. Nearly all the saints and martyrs were converts from the religion in which they were born and you would be in good company **to become a born-again child of God.** God bless you. Amen.

For further consultation and instruction, please contact Fundamental Baptist Publications at 7399 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43235 and Bible study material and helps will be sent to you to further enlighten you and guide you in God's way of salvation, peace, joy and Heaven

THE WAY OF SALVATION MADE PLAIN BELIEVE THESE FACTS

1. You are a lost sinner and cannot save yourself.
"All have sinned and come short of the glory of God."
(Romans 3:10-23)
2. The Lord Jesus Christ is the only Saviour of sinners.
"Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners)"
(I Timothy 1:15)
"I have come to seek and save that which was lost." (Luke 19:10)
3. Jesus wants to save you now.
"Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)
"Now is the accepted time: now is the day of salvation." (II Corinthians 6:2)